

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 SS-15

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R 031729Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0019

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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GENEVA - FOR JAMES CARLIN

FRANKFURT - FOR INS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, FR

SUBJECT: POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR RELATIVES OF SIRIK MATAK

REF: STATE 124502

1. EMBASSY POUCHE TO DEPARTMENT EA/LC MAY 2 JOINT LETTERS FROM SISOWATH ESSARO AND KY SOTH (RESPECTIVELY BROTHER AND SON-IN-LAW OF SIRIK MATAK) TO THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE ON BEHALF OF THE SIRIK MATAK FAMILY. ESSARO NOW INFORMS US THAT MME. SIRIK MATAK HAS REACHED PARIS FROM BANGKOK AND INTENDS TO REMAIN HERE FOR A WHILE WITH HER CHILDREN TO DETERMINE WHETHER SHE WISHES TO SETTLE IN FRANCE OR TO ATTEMPT TO GO TO THE UNITED STATES. ESSARO ALSO WISHES TO WAIT TO SEE WHAT HE CAN ARRANGE IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN FRANCE BEFORE DECIDING WHERE HE AND HIS FAMILY SHOULD SETTLE. ON THE OTHER HAND, KY SOTH WISHES TO GO TO THE UNITED STATES RATHER URGENLY IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PROCESS OF PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT.

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2. KY SOTH WAS GKR CONSUL GENERAL IN HONG KONG AND CAME TO PARIS FOLLOWING THE FALL OF PHNOM PENH BECAUSE OF THREATS TO HIS PERSONAL SAFETY FROM CAMBODIAN COMMUNIST ACTIVISTS IN HONG KONG. ESSARO AND KY SOTH BELIEVED THAT USG (PARTICULARLY PRESIDENT NIXON) GAVE SOME SPECIAL ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT FOR SIRIK MATAK AND HIS FAMILY IN CASE OF PROBLEMS IN CAMBODIA. THEY CLAIM THAT DURING THE COURSE OF A VISIT TO SAN CLEMENTE, SIRIK MATAK WAS, FOR EXAMPLE, "GIVEN THE KEYS TO THE CITY" BY THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES.

3. DEPARTMENT EA/LC MAY HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING IMPLIED ASSURANCES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN TO SIRIK MATAK AND HIS FAMILY. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE AN ARGUMENT CAN BE MADE THAT EVEN IN FRANCE SIRIK MATAK'S RELATIVES MAY BE IN SOME DANGER, WE GATHER THAT IN CASE OF KY SOTH THE CRITERION OF REUNITING FAMILIES DOES NOT APPLY. WITH CHENG HENG'S DEPARTURE TO THE U.S., OTHER KHMER IN PARIS CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THEIR REQUESTS.

4. SOTH WOULD APPRECIATE SOME REPLY CONCERNING HIS REQUEST FOR ASYLUM IN THE U.S.

5. THE DETAILED INFORMATION ON EACH PROSPECTIVE PAROLEE, AS REQUIRED BY REFTEL, WILL BE SUBJECT SEPTEL.
RUSH

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